

106TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2302

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the enhanced deduction for corporate donations of computer technology to public libraries and community centers.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 28, 2000

Mr. CLELAND introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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## A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the enhanced deduction for corporate donations of computer technology to public libraries and community centers.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Community Tech-  
5 nology Assistance Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1           (1) A third of America's economic growth in re-  
2           cent years has come from information technologies,  
3           including 19,000,000 new jobs.

4           (2) Thirty percent of white Americans are con-  
5           nected to the Internet while only 11 or 12 percent  
6           of African Americans or Hispanic Americans are on-  
7           line. Households with incomes of at least \$75,000  
8           are more than 20 times as likely to have access to  
9           the Internet than those at the lowest income levels,  
10          and more than 9 times as likely to have a computer  
11          at home.

12          (3) Citizens in rural areas are less likely to be  
13          connected to the Internet than urban users. Regard-  
14          less of income level, those living in rural areas are  
15          lagging behind in computer ownership and Internet  
16          access.

17          (4) Unemployed persons who access the Inter-  
18          net outside their homes are nearly 3 times more like-  
19          ly to use the Internet for job searching than the na-  
20          tional average. Those Americans who are "not in the  
21          labor force", such as retirees or homemakers, are  
22          twice as likely to use the public libraries for access.

23          (5) Those earning less than \$20,000 who use  
24          the Internet outside the home are twice as likely to

1 get their access through a public library or commu-  
 2 nity center than those earning more than \$20,000.

3 (6) Minorities are more likely users of the  
 4 Internet and pursue online courses and school re-  
 5 search at even higher rates outside the home (50.3  
 6 percent for Hispanics, 47.0 percent for American In-  
 7 dians/Eskimos/Aleuts, and 46.3 percent for African  
 8 Americans).

9 (7) Among all Americans, 17.0 percent use the  
 10 Internet at some site outside the home. Many Amer-  
 11 icans who obtain Internet access outside the home  
 12 rely on such places as public libraries (8.2 percent)  
 13 and community centers (0.6 percent).

14 **SEC. 3. ENHANCED DEDUCTION FOR CORPORATE DONA-**  
 15 **TIONS OF COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY TO PUB-**  
 16 **LIC LIBRARIES AND COMMUNITY CENTERS.**

17 (a) EXPANSION OF COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY DONA-  
 18 TIONS TO PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND COMMUNITY CEN-  
 19 TERS.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (6) of section  
 21 170(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relat-  
 22 ing to special rule for contributions of computer  
 23 technology and equipment for elementary or sec-  
 24 ondary school purposes) is amended by striking  
 25 “qualified elementary or secondary educational con-

tribution” each place it occurs in the headings and text and inserting “qualified computer contribution”.

(2) EXPANSION OF ELIGIBLE DONEES.—Subclause (II) of section 170(e)(6)(B)(i) of such Code (relating to qualified elementary or secondary educational contribution) is amended by striking “or” at the end of subclause (I) and by inserting after subclause (II) the following new subclauses:

“(III) a public library (within the meaning of section 213(2)(A) of the Library Services and Technology Act (20 U.S.C. 9122(2)(A)), as in effect on the date of the enactment of the Community Technology Assistance Act, established and maintained by an entity described in subsection (c)(1), or

“(IV) a nonprofit or governmental community center, including any center within which an after-school or employment training program is operated,”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

1           (1) Section 170(e)(6)((B)(iv) of the Internal  
2       Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “in  
3       any grades K–12”.

4           (2) The heading of paragraph (6) of section  
5       170(e) of such Code is amended by striking “ELE-  
6       MENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL PURPOSES” and  
7       inserting “EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES”.

8       (c)     EXTENSION     OF     DEDUCTION.—Section  
9       170(e)(6)(F) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relat-  
10      ing to termination) is amended by striking “December 31,  
11      2000” and inserting “December 31, 2005”.

12      (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
13      this section shall apply to contributions made after De-  
14      cember 31, 2000.

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